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Roberts
Pat Am

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. ACX-103CN5
(180/12)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Lazarus et al. GROUP NO.: 3741
SERIAL NO.: 09/837,773 EXAMINER: Not yet assigned
FILING DATE: April 18, 2001
TITLE: PACKAGED STRAIN ACTUATOR

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 21-57 without prejudice, and add new claims 58- 68 as follows:

58. (New) An electroactive assembly, comprising

a flexible circuit including a stiff non-conductive polymer film and at least one conductive lead, wherein the conductive lead is disposed on at least one surface of the stiff non-conductive polymer film;

at least one cylindrical electroactive element having a length and a diameter;

a polymer bonding material disposed between said stiff nonconductive polymer film and said at least one cylindrical electroactive element,

wherein said conductive lead contacts said cylindrical electroactive element for at least a portion of the length of the cylindrical electroactive element, thereby establishing direct electrical contact with the cylindrical electroactive element, such that planar strain in said cylindrical electroactive element is effectively shear coupled through the polymer bonding material, and between said cylindrical electroactive element and said flexible circuit.

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